

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 02412 181144Z

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-11 ARA-06 EUR-12 SAM-01

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O P 181025Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6989

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 2412

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, JA, AO

SUBJECT: JAPANESE DECIDE TO RECOGNIZE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA

SUMMARY: FOREIGN OFFICE HAS INFORMED EMBASSY IN CONFIDENCE THAT DECISION TAKEN FEBRUARY 18 TO RECOGNIZE ANGOLAN MPLA REGIME. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT WILL NOT BE MADE FOR A FEW DAYS YET. EMBASSY TOLD THAT FONOFF THINKS THAT IF WESTERN DEMOCRACIES MAKE EARLY, CONSTRUCTIVE MOVES TOWARD MPLA, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA NOT LIKELY TO WIND UP A SOVIET CLIENT STATE. END SUMMARY.

1. MOFA MIDDLE EAST/AFRICA BUREAU DEP DIR MURATA

CALLED IN POLCOUNS LATE ON JANUARY 18 TO PASS WORD THAT MINISTRY DECIDED SAME AFTERNOON THAT GOJ WILL RECOGNIZE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA (PRA). FORMAL CABINET APPROVAL IS EXPECTED ON JANUARY 20, AFTER WHICH PRIME MINISTER WILL CABLE NETO. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT WILL FOLLOW.

2. JAPANESE DECISION, MURATA SAID, IS BASED ON MPLA'S CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 02412 181144Z

EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF MOST OF ANGOLAN TERRITORY, PRA'S

ADMISSION TO OAU WITH SUPPORT OF OVER 30 AFRICAN STATES, AND FRENCH AND DUTCH RECOGNITION. HE SAID DOMESTIC PRESSURE ON GOJ RE RECOGNITION HAS BEEN NEGLIGIBLE. HOWEVER, AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN FONOFF'S ANALYSIS, SAID MURATA, IS NOTION THAT EARLY WESTERN INITIATIVE FOR POLITICAL DIALOGUE AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE WILL ENCOURAGE PRA TO TAKE NON-ALIGNED STANCE, RATHER THAN BECOME SOVIET CLIENT STATE. MURATA MENTIONED THAT FRG ECONOMIC COOPERATION MINISTER EGON BAHR EXPRESSED SIMILAR OPINION DURING TOKYO VISIT LAST WEEK. JAPANESE FURTHER HOPEFUL, ACCORDING TO MURATA, OF SOME SORT OF MPLA-UNITA ACCOMODATION. JAPANESE UNDERSTAND RUSSIANS ARE NOT OPPOSED TO SUCH ACCOMODATION IF MPLA IS DOMINANT. ANOTHER POSSIBILITY, MURATA SAID, IS PROLONGED GUERILLA WARFARE.

3. MURATA TOLD POLCOUNS THAT USG IS FIRST TO BE INFORMED OF JAPANESE DECISION, AND THAT HE IS ALSO SEEING ZAMBIAN AND ZAIRIAN AMBASSADORS LATER SAME EVENING. PARENTHETICALLY, HE INDICATED APPREHENSION THAT ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S DOMESTIC POSITION IS GROWING INCREASINGLY SHAKY.

4. MINISTRY OF COURSE EXPECTS US TO PROTECT CONFIDENTIALITY UNTIL DECISION MADE PUBLIC.
HODGSON

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